# Mid - Florida Atari Computer Club Bulletin

February, 1995

Vol. 12, No. 2


This is the monthly bulletin of the Mid-Florida Atari Computer Club. In it are articles written or submitted by members who feel they are of interest to all users of Atari computers.

You may wish to join a computer club to share the beneficial aspects of having others around you who have similar machines, like interests, and a desire to share what they know with others. A users group can help you understand things about your computer that they have already discovered.

Our membership, at $12.00 per year,, entitles you to the newsletter, access to the disk libraries, and club meetings where all the fun and education happen on a monthly basis.

We meet in the Orlando Library building downtown Orlando, 101 E Central Blvd. At 1:30PM on the second Sunday of each month. Feel free to join us there next month to learn more about the wonderful world of computers, and Atari computers in particular.

For Newsletter Exchange

M.F.A.C.C.
C/O Bob Smith
3729 Yosemite Dr.
Orlando, FL 32818

M.F.A.C.C. Affiliated BBS Listing:

| | |
|---|---|
| Top Gun | 381-5403 |
| Starbase 1 | 381-2610 |
| Inner Core | 294-5183 |
| Lear-Sparks Midi | 786-02390 |


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Mid-Florida Atari Computer Club

MID-FLORIDA ATARI COMPUTER CLUB

# *From the President*

February is here, but you already knew that. It brings with it the Flu, Warm and Cold Weather, the 24 Hours of Daytona Auto Race, Bike Week, Gail Kindstrom's annual visit to Daytona Beach and many, many more events. What does that have to do with our Club? Good question and a good answer is about to be given. Next month is the start of the final quarter of the Mid-Florida Atari Computer Club's year and as such, the most active part of the year is about to start.

The Club starts its annual national election process. The electioneering, the handshaking, the arm twisting, the smoke filled rooms, etc. are all about to take place over the next three months. Next month, a nominations committee will be selected from the multitudes of volunteers that will come forth to analyze the credentials and experience of all of the possible candidates for the offices of our Club. This will be a painstaking evaluation and there will be many a long night that this committee will be burning the midnight oil and it wouldn't suprise me in the least if some of these closed meetings will be held at a Motel 6 somewhere. Afterall, when something as vital as the Club government is at stake, the dedication of these committee members will be something to behold.

When all of the exhaustive work of the nominations committee is done, the final slate will be brought to the floor for announcement to the members at large. This will take place at the April, 1995 meeting and at that time the nominations process will accept any nominations from the floor. This means that anyone who can put together a write-in compaign will have the opportunity to run. If a nomination is made from the floor, a second will be required and if one is gotten, that person's name will also appear on the final ballot. At that point, the nominations will be closed and the final slate will be done. Additionally, the nominations committee will be thanked for the extreme dedication to their jobs and responsibilities and will be released from any further service.

In May, the complete slate will be published for all to see. This will appear in this Newsletter and all of the nominees life histories will be included. This will provide the voter will all of the information that they could need to make an extremely intelligent choice for the candidates for office. Remember, these will be the people that will govern for the new year.

In June, the actual voting will take place. There will be polling booths set up at many convenient locations to make this process easy for you, the voter. After the actual vote is taken, the ballots counted, and the winners announced, the new cabinet will immediately take office.

The proceeding has been a Public Service Announcement, brought to you by the Mid-Florida Atari Computer Club political action committee. All cash donations will be cheerfully accepted. One final point, vote early and often. Now back to your regularly schedule President's Message.

It has been said that the Atari computer is suited for many tasks and among these tasks, Desk Top Publishing is one of the best. No where is that more evident than the Newsletter. We have a particularly talented person who is well versed in the usage of these types of programs. He has started me on the road of usage with PageStream, so that I can contribute more to the setting up of this Newsletter. Now I have found some new areas which are fun and tedious at the same time, in addition to my writing. I want to mention this only to thank this member and tell I owe him for patience and knowledge that he has imparted. Ok, your wondering who he is, well, besides being a renowned brewer of beer, he is good looking, young, handsome, a former sysop, wealthy, supporter of many causes and much more. He is a former officer of this Club and a very long time member. This person has keen insight into the workings of this Club and on and on. Now, I believe I have given you enough information to figure out who he is, but if not, go back and read the beginning of this article and he is prominently mentioned. Oh yes, one more thing, "this Font and MEAD is for you!!!"

Stay tuned for the next immediate Public Service announcement which will be once again brought to you by the MFACC PAC. This immediate announcement 0.will appear in this space next month.

# Minutes Of The M.F.A.C.C. General Meeting

MFACC BUSINESS MEETING
January 8th, 1995

2:54 Meeting Begins

Old Business

1) Bill Baker gave a wrap up of the Xmas party at Border Cantina. A 2500 and an 800 were set up an run, a lot of beer was drank, and a merry tyme had by all.

2) Disk of the month - We are going to expand this service.

3) Lots of Birthday wishes. Bob neglected to bring up his own.

New Business

1) Are the supplements in the newsletter a good thing? The congregation replied with a mumbled 'yes'. After some discussion, we decided to place all such Atari communications on Bob's board, and place the more outstanding of these in the newsletter.

2) New Visitor Humilation Time - Chet Fronn joined the club. He has a broken 800 and an XE game system. His bend is to put computer graphics to tape.

3) Bob wished that a committee of members split up the phone list and call all members before each meeting. Mike Sarni, John Roell, and Jim Halcrow were the slowest members and were caught for this duty.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20.

## Some phone numbers you will need to communicate with our club:

President:
Bob Smith ☛ 299-5374

Vice-President:
John Baker ☛ 823-9705

Treasurer:
Bill Baker ☛ 277-3438

Secretary:
Robert Raymond ☛ 896-7404

Librarians:
8-Bit:
Jeff Potter

ST:
Bob Smith ☛ 299-5374

Publicity:
☛

This newsletter is produced on an Atari Mega STE-4, using Pagestream 2.2 and printed on a Hewlett Packard Deskjet 500

# Treasurer's Report
# January, 1995

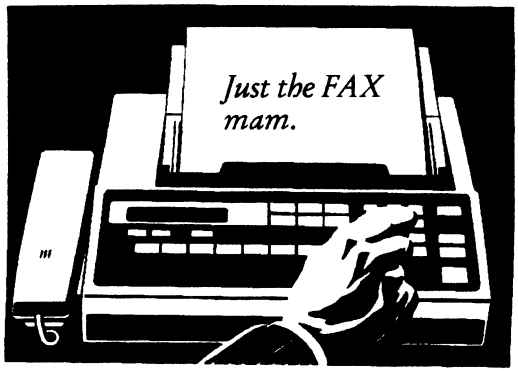
| | |
|---|---|
| Opening balance of | 696.12 |
| Deposit | 36.00 |
| Debit | 62.00 |
| Service Charge | 8.00 |
| Closing balance | 662.12 |

*Birthdays for Feburary*

*Adrian Gruber*
*Gail Kindstrom*
*Scott Prince*

*All welcomed as new members.*

*Chet Fromm*




## COMING EVENTS

March 95: Nominations committee
April 95: Nominations
May 95: Nominations Published
June 95: Elections

## FOR SALE

3 single density drives complete $10 each
Large selection of new & used software, games utilities etc. Start mags with disks $1 each.
SM124 St monochrome monitor $75
Hard drive boxes & power supplies $50@
See Bob Smith or call 299-5374

# *ATARI ST DISK OF THE MONTH*

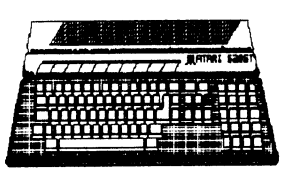
By Bob Smith
MFACC Acting ST Librarian


ORRISON COMPUTERS
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

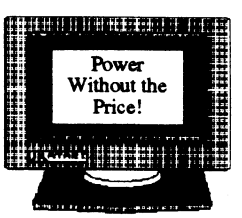
3761 SILVER STAR RD. ORLANDO, FLORIDA (407)295-6340

AUTHORIZED ATARI SALES AND SERVICE

OVER 250 SOFTWARE TITLES!
COMPONENT LEVEL 8-BIT, 16 BIT ATARI, IBM, C64 REPAIRS
AUDIO REPAIRS ON YAMAHA, PEAVEY AND MORE.
MIDI APPLICATIONS SPECIALISTS
*MANY USED ITEMS*
New R/C Aerochopper ST/PC/MAC $225.00
Complete Selection of ST Books and European Mags



***The Falcon has LANDED!!!***



## Stello 2
## TOS Review by: Mark Stephen Smith

Stello 2 is the latest version of the Othello program by Claus JPedersen. It contains several improvements over it's earlierincarnation. The program utilises a GEM interface and is well constructed. The program is shareware and as such has a few optionsmissing from the unregistered version. The game is in no way crippledand is still very playable without the complete set of options.

This review is based upon the complete registered version as kindlydonated by Claus. Using GEM it manages to maintain high compatibiltyacross Atari platforms and this review is based on it's use on both myST and Falcon.

### //// Some Background.

As I said earlier the game Stello is based upon the game Othello. Thegame Othello is an old board game set on an eight by eight grid. The pieces consist of two types of counter, black and white. The game istwo player with one player choosing white and the other taking black. the start of the game the board is set out with four counters in asquare in the middle of the board, two white and two black, withsimilar colours set at diagonals.

Movement is in any direction and the players take turns. Movementhowever is only possible by placing a new counter of your colour onthe other side of an opponent's, making all your opponents countersbetween your first and last counter into your own colour. If it is not possible to place your counter within a straight line in any direction across your opponents from any of your counters then you can not move, and have to miss that turn.

The player with the most counters on the board when the board is full is the winner. If the number is equal it is a draw.

Stello runs in any resolution with at least 640 pixels across and will use up to 16 colours. The board is presented in a window which doesn't take up much desktop space, using higher resolutions just gives you more space but doesn't increase the size of the board which is fixed. The board can be moved around by dragging the window and is represented as a series of lines forming a grid and circles in either black or white for the counters.

To improve the appearance it is possible to load a background picture into the board. Several are provided and can be chosen in 2, 4 and 16 colours. It is also possible to add chess like notation at the sides of the board to work out the position for moves.

There are several options available from the menu bar at the top of the screen. Using these options you are able to save and load your game (there are some pre-saved games for you to try). You can choose to play against the computer, a human opponent, or even watch while the computer plays itself.

The computer plays a very strong game and as such you have several options to help adjust the computer's strength. You can set the maximum time the computer has to make a single move, the maximum time the computer has to think in the entire game, and the number of consecutive moves the computer will think ahead.

Other options allow you to keep a log of all moves made via a table or visual representation on a second board. These are very nice features. You can also force the computer to move, swap sides during a game, go back a move, ask for the best move available to you and set up the board for a particular set of positions.

The program is both GDOS and MultiTos compatible and works well with both of these. The program is very stable and in the several hours I ayed with it I never encountered a single error. There are also facilities to print the record of moves. All this leads to just about all the features you could ask for in a version of Othello for a computer. Several of the menubar options are also supported with keystroke equivalents.

Help is also provided with the aid of Hypertext, full documentation is in this format and all the options are described using Hypertext.

### //// Conclusion

Visually, the program is tidy and



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withbackground graphics the display would have to be considered a little better than functional. However for this type of game this is more than good enough. Sound is non-existent, but again this game does not need any sound.

Gamewise this plays a very good game of Othello, and when I say this I mean very good! This can be one of the program's weakest points however when playing the computer. Even with the moves ahead set to one, and the time to think set to a minimum you'll still if a novice eed a lot of practice to beat the computer. I have managed to beat it a few times on the odd occasion but you do have to concentrate on the possible outcomes of every move available to you.

Most fun can be derived in two player mode, and this is where I found the game more entertaining, battling against a human opponent. Other than to see how the computer thinks and for a demo of the game, computer versus computer serves little purpose and isn't very entertaining.

The option to save is good if you are taking your time and battling it out against the computer on a harder level. The game was designed to play the strongest game it could and this is the only problem with the current version. There is no adjustable level of skill as such for the computer, or no beginner level.

### //// Overall

If your looking for a game of Othello you could do a lot worse than to look at Stello v2, although a little hard, in two player it can be fun. I'd recommend this and look out for the future versions.

Rating 83%

### /// Future

As I write this the finishing touches should have been done to the next version. The next version makes all options available from the keyboard and will have levels of difficulty introduced making it asier for the novice. Keep an eye out for this available at various TP sites.

## "From a saved backup...."

By: Ron Whittam

In this column I hope to foster communication and support for 8-bit and ST computer owners... presenting a positive and directive approach. This will help to strengthen the users group base and encourage the executive element.

If you have a question you would like me to answer, or a topic you would like to see covered; send me an Email!

I am sick and tired of people telling me the Atari ST is a dead computer. The PC-XT is dead, the PC-AT is close to its demise, even the PC-386 is showing signs of age. With the speed and power of the PC-486 and PC-Penti m (not to mention the PowerPC) developers are leaving these dinosaurs behind. NOT SO WITH THE ATARI ST! Atari developers are still producing new Atari software that runs very well on the Atari 1040ST c. 1985. While I have added a hard drive (20MB) and a memory expansion board (4MB), my Atari ST is doing fine. I still use the orginal Atari mouse. I got a cordless mouse, but after changing the batteries once too often (I use it a lot), I came back to the original... it just feels right. Its a good computer. And it is ALIVE and WELL.

I have a few friends that have computers. Most of them have Atari computers (because I met them at the Atari Boise Users Group). A few have other computers. I often get into discussions about computers. I get a lot of interesting answers when I ask what they DO with their computers. The Atari owners tend to use it daily. I get the response "I rarely turn it off." On the other hand those owning other computers usually scratch their heads and then list the programs they own (often with pride). They don't actually use any of them, except one or two. They write letters, or teach their kids typing. They have an encylopedia on a CD-ROM that they have not used since the day the set up the CD-ROM.

Granted, there are a lot of computer owners (of other computers) that really do use them for more then just writing letters or playing games. Some of us (including myself) use them in our jobs. But using the computer in the home isn't done the way the TV advertisements would have

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us believe.

For example two of my friends are in a similar line of work. They are sub-contractors. One is a plumber and the other is an electrician. The plumber has a PC-compatable and the electrician has an Atari ST. Neither have computer aptitude. Both are mechanical and handy with hardware tools. Both bid projects and bill for services. Both have a list of clients and suppliers. Both work long hours. And both bought a computer to help them do their business better. The plumber created a bid sheet in a Lotus Works spreadsheet. Very impressive spreadsheet. But when I last checked, it was easier to use a pencil, paper, and a calculator. He has Intuit's Quicken for his finances. But the last I checked, his wife was using it for her household checking account.

On the other hand, the electrician is using CARDFILE for keeping track of his accounts, K-spread for doing bid sheets, and ProText for writing letters, (not sure what he uses for billing). He also uses an Atari finance program to keep track of his expenses. He has Warp9 and a host of utilities. He also uses a Computer Aided Design (CAD) program to design wiring layouts for his projects. Based on these examples, I learned that the Atari is not just easier to learn and use; it is less expensive to operate. The supporting hardware and operating system cost a lot less then other computers, and the application software is reasonably priced for the average person.

The recent developments of SCSI connections via the DMA port or parallel port allow the Atari ST to use CD-ROMs, tape drives, large hard drives, and other SCSI devices. The Atari also leaped into the multi-tasking arena with NeoDesk 4 and Geneva by Gribnif. These products provide a 3-D user interface with mutlitasking in a windowed environment. Other similar products are surfacing from Europe, like the Magix desktop and others. Amazingly, these products run on an Atari ST.

If you anticipate the future of Atari, look at the top-flight developers. Programs are being developed that get the job done. A recent advertisement on TV made the statement that there were only two types of computer choices. Not so. The Atari is THE computer choice of many of us. We arn't just die-hards, we know when we have a good thing and we use it. My MICRON Pentium 90MHz PCI computer in most every way is superior and more innovative (in 1994) then my Atari 1040ST of 1984, but I still gravitate to the ease of use and solid productivity of my Atari.

It seems that I continue to hear comments, here and there, from other users that the Atari ST is still a good computer. Here is a letter I received recently from the Internet:

Hello,

I got your address from the AEO magazine. I am the owner of an Atari 1040ST for the second time. The first time was when it was newand just introduced to the market years ago. A couple of year later I sold it for $300 after paying over $1000 for it new and bought a 386 IBM clone which led to my current fully loaded 486-66 multimedia PC. I had to get the ST though for 2 reasons;

1. Nostalgia & 2. It was only $50. I cleaned it up and it looks new and, after replacing the mouse, works like new.

[Note: I took the liberty to delete portions of this letter. Kevin also asked for some information and a newsletter to be sent to him. I will be responding to him via the Internet, as well as, sending him an ABUG Newsletter. Any user groups in the San Diego area? Please drop me a note and I will put you in contact with Kevin. - RBW].

Thank you.
Kevin Stiles

Another strong point the Atari computer has going for it is the Atari owners and, predominately, the user group. There have been many efforts over the years to bring user groups together. There are small and large associations of user groups across the nation. One way to keep in touch with other groups is through sharing newsletters. I would like to discuss both of these areas in AEO during 1995. If your user group is connected to another by some loose or close tie, please drop me Email (see methods below). Also, if your user group exchanges newsletters (or would like to), send me your exchange address in an Email message. I will publish it in a future issue of AEO.
1. Send info on newsletter exchange.

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2. Send info on "Atari" BBS phone numbers.
3. Send info on Atari Users Group addresses and meeting times.

"An empty Email box is an empty Email box." -ANON

Until next time...

Ron Whittam is a Customer Support Specialist for a small software firm in Boise, Idaho; and the President of the Atari Boise Users Group. He can be contacted on GEnie (EXPLORER.4), on the Internet at <r.whittam@genie.geis.com>, or on ApC BBS (208-362-1790).

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**Atari 8-Bit Computers**

**Vendors and Developers List**

Revised 31-Dec-94

- All Print and Disk Magazines are now listed!-
Additions/suggestions/comments/corrections are needed! Please send to:

Michael D. Current
mailto:mcurrent@carleton.edu
UUCP: ...!umn-cs!ccnfld!mcurrent
Cleveland Free-Net: aa700

Where to get the latest copy of this list:

The home of many FTP archives, automatically updated monthly: ftp://rtfm.mit.edu/pub/usenet-by-group/news.answers/atari-8-bit/vendev

The World Wide Web hypertext version, automatically generated monthly: http://www.cis.ohio-state.edu/hypertext/faq/usenet/atari-8-bit/vendev/faq.html

Usenet newsgroups where this list is automatically posted monthly: news:comp. sys.atari.8bit news:comp.answers news: news. answers. You can also send for this list by mail-order.mailto:mail-server @rtfm.mit.edu, message says:send usenet/news. answers/atari-8-bit/vendev quit

Finally, you can always ask me for a copy at mailto:mcurrent@carleton.edu

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Vendor = reseller of products produced by others
Developer = producer & copyright owner of products
Publisher = publishes a print or disk magazine

All commercial vendors, developers, and publishers should be listed here. "Major" shareware developers should also be listed.

GEnie, Delphi and CompuServe addresses can be accessed via the Internet:
Genie users are Genie.name@genie.geis.com
CIS users are #####.####@compuserve.com
Delphi users are delphiname@delphi.com

Telephone number coversion table:
2=ABC 3=DEF 4=GHI 5=JKL 6=MNO 7=PRS 8=TUV 9=WXY

When writing to request catalogs, it's always a good idea to include a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope.

When writing to foreign firms, try enclosing a couple of International Reply Coupons (IRC's) as well.

Special thanks to Dave Paterson, GEn: D.PATERSON2, for his efforts at confirming the entire contents of this list in 1994!

This list won't be accurate or complete without YOUR help!

---

8-Bit Magazin (disk magazine)
see: Powersoft

A.B.B.U.C. e.V.
c/o Wolfgang Burger
Wieschenbeck 45
45699 Herten
Germany
Developer: various hardware and software (also schematics, mailbox, disk magazine, repair-service, helpline addresses, meetings)
Publisher: Diskmagazin (disk magazine)

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Aerion Software
P.O. Box 1222, Riverdale Station
New York, NY
U.S.A. 10471-1222
tel: (212) 548-0514
Developer: Fury: The Wrath of Taljun Cathu, Lasermaze

The AGDA Group
see: DataQue Products
GEn: DATAQUE.1 / JDPOTTER
CIS: 71777,3223 / 74030,2020
Net: potter@escmail.orl.mmc.com
Developer: Maze of AGDAgon, GameLink-II (cable)

Agencja Wydawnicza B.I.M.
P.O. Box 178
Warsaw 4
Poland
Publisher: Swiat ATARI (print magazine)
Very irregular

AMC-Verlag
Bluecherstr. 17
W-6200 Wiesbaden
Germany
tel: +49 611/405611
Developer: Portronic (joystick port switch/extension) Stereo upgrade, Herbert I, Herbert II, other games

American Techna-Vision
Mail Order:
15338 Inverness St.
San Leandro, CA
U.S.A. 94579-2016
Sales Office:
1903 Fairway Dr.
San Leandro, CA
U.S.A. 94577
tel: (510) 352-3787
FAX: (510) 352-9227
Vendor: new hardware, commercial software

Amethyst Software
211 South Kansas
Danville, IL
U.S.A. 61832
Vendor: commercial/PD/freeware/shareware

A.N.G. Software
Ridderkerksestraat 60
3114 RK Schiedam
Holland
tel/FAX: +31-10-4271732
Vendor: Polish Software, other ftware/hardware
Developer: Stereo Kit (XL/XE compatible, incl 1 extra pokey chip), T-shirts with Atari 8-bit game motives on them
Publisher: Mega Magazine (disk magazine)
fl10.00/disk

Artacyis Publications
639 W. Grace Suite #336
Chicago, IL 60613
U.S.A.
Publisher: Classic 8-Bit Atari (disk magazine)
$5 for sample disk

AS see: Mirage

Assisting Children to Excel
P.O. Box 1213
Camarillo, CA 93011
U.S.A.
Developer: Educational Master Cartridge, Dorsett Teaching Tapes (8-tape sets each in: Reading, Spelling, Math, Economics, Physics, Psychology, U.S. History, World History, Digital Electronics)

Atari 8-Bit Alive
c/o Damon Walker
RD#1 Box 62
Salem, NJ 08079
U.S.A.
CIS: 74354,3015
Publisher: Atari 8-Bit Alive (print magazine)
bimonthly, $8/three issues

The Atari Classic Programmer's Club
Pen-Tyddyn
Capel Coch
LLangefni
Anglesey
Gwynedd LL77 7UR
WALES
Net: MBITDC9306@newi.ac.uk
Developer: Swift Spreadsheet (Standard or New), Menu Print Elite, Loopz, Helter Skelter, Bomb Blaster, Pro Paint

Atari Classics
5507 Langford Court
Concord, CA 94521-1614
U.S.A.

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GEn: J.HOOD9
Publisher: Atari Classics (print magazine)

| | 1 Year | 2 Years | 3 Years |
|---|---|---|---|
| USA 2nd Class Mail | $25 | $46 | $63 |
| Canada Surface Mail | $30 | $56 | $78 |
| Foreign Surface Mail | $32 | $60 | $84 |
| European Airmail | $38 | $72 | $102 |
| Asia/Pacific Airmail | $40 | $76 | $108 |
| AC Software Disk (Anywhere): | $ 9 | $18 | $ 27 |

ATARImagazin (print magazine)
see: Power Per Post

ATARI-magazyn (print magazine)
ul. Wasilkowskiego 7
02-776 Warsaw
Poland
tel: 643-18-40, Friday 13.00-15.30
see also: Wydawnictwo "Bajtek"

Atari PD Software
c/o Andrew Pittman
418 Marilyn Drive
Pearl, MS 39208
Vendor: shareware/freeware/PD

Atari Video Club
c/o Dan Iacovelli
1411 North 36th
Melrose Park, IL
U.S.A. 60160-2726
tel: (708) 345-4127
Vendor: games

ATESIG
c/o Decker G. McAllister, Jr.
145 Surf Place
Seal Beach, CA 90740-5909
U.S.A.
tel: (310) 430-5433
tel: (310) 596-6123
GEn: D.MCALLISTE2
Developer: hardware and software for model railroading applications

Avatar
Postfach 1103
D-24318 Luetjenburg
Germany
tel: +49/4381/7678
BBS/FAX: +49/4381/4739 (24 hours, 8N1, 300-19200 bps)
Net: ulf@zodiac.de
FIDO: Ulf Petersen@2:240/2018.22
Vendor: new/used hardware, commercial/PD/freeware/shareware
Developer: Pirates of the Barbary Coast, LDS Freezer XL/XE,
LDS "C:" Emulator, Paradise Games #1, PC/XL-Convert II, Ultracopier II
Publisher: User-Mag (disk magazine)
bi-monthly

B&C ComputerVisions
1725 De La Cruz #7
Santa Clara, CA
U.S.A. 95050-3011
tel: (408) 986-9960
FAX: (408) 986-9968
Phone Hours: Tue-Fri 10am-6pm
Retail Store Hours: Thu & Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-5pm
Vendor: new/used hardware, commercial/PD/freeware/shareware

Bensley Consulting
P.O. Box 301
Westfield, IL 62474-0301
U.S.A.
tel: (217) 967-5465
Net: csbdb@eiu.edu
Developer: Happy's Programs - Math, U.S. History, Astronauts, Triangles

Best Electronics
2021 The Alameda, Suite 290
San Jose, CA
U.S.A. 95126-1127
tel: (408) 243-6950 1-5pm Pacific Time Mon-Fri
FAX: (408) 243-8274
Vendor: new hardware, commercial software
Developer: "XE" Touch, Best Joystick, Best Light Gun

Larry Black
2337 Douglas Rd.
Panama City, FL
U.S.A. 32405-5902
Developer: Atar-Z-Modem

Black Moon Systems
P.O. Box 152
Wind Gap, PA
U.S.A. 18091
Developer: Small Business System, Label

continued next page ☞

Master, Multi-Column Lister

Bolt's Electronic Repair Service
920 Thornwood Street
Simi Valley, CA 93065-5646
tel: (805) 579-9954
Vendor: used hardware

Branch Always Software
14150 N.E. 20th Street, Suite 302
Bellevue, WA 98007
U.S.A.
tel: (206) 369-5513
FAX: (206) 885-5893
CIS: 73657,2714
GEn: BRASOFT
Del: DAREKM
Developer: ST Xformer 2.55, PC Xformer 3.0

BRE Software
352 W. Bedford, Suite 104
Fresno, CA
U.S.A. 93711
tel: 1-800-347-6760
tel: (209) 432-3072
Vendor: PD/freeware/shareware

Bresnik Software
555 Ware Street
Mansfield, MA
U.S.A. 02048-2925
tel: (508) 339-6090
Developer: Illusions/Audiovisualizer, Ecologian, Word-Search Maker, Animals, Mathematics, Fractals

B. Utschig
This address has recently been reported invalid.
Confirmations?
2012 S. 314th St., #314
Federal Way, WA 98003-5622
Vendor: PD/freeware/shareware

C&T ComputerActive
P.O. Box 893
Clinton, OK
U.S.A. 73601
tel: (405) 323-5890
Vendor: ???what???

Change In Heat
12 Bella Vista Place
Iowa City, IA
U.S.A. 52245
Developer: Pondering About Max's, 1 other game ???what???

ChildsPlay SoftWare Services
6812 Hill Place
Crystal, MN
U.S.A. 55427-2259
Developer: various software

Classic 8-Bit Atari (disk magazine)
see: Artacyis Publications

Compsult
P.O. Box 5160
San Luis Obispo, CA
U.S.A. 93403-5160
tel: (805) 544-6616
Vendor: closeout commercial software

Computer Software Services
P.O. Box 17660
Rochester, NY
U.S.A. 14624
tel: (716) 429-5639 10am-6pm Mon-Fri
FAX: (716) 247-7158
BBS: (716) 247-7157 300-9600 bps
Vendor: commercial software
Developer: Black Box, Black Box Enhancer, Hard Drive Pro Backup, SIO Power Booster, Super E-Burner, Quintopus, Power Plus, Multiplexer, XF551 Enhancer, XF Single Drive Upgrade, XF Dual Drive Upgrade, Super Archiver, Super Archiver II, Bit-Writer, Ultra Speed Plus OS, Floppy Board, XF551 Update, Bit-Writer

Current Notes
122 N. Johnson Rd.
Sterling, VA 20164
U.S.A.
tel: (703) 450-4761
GEn: JOE.WATERS
CIS: 74005,1270
Publisher: Current Notes (print magazine)
bi-monthly: $25/year ($44/2 years)
foreign surface: $30/year ($55/2 years)
disk subscriptions: $48/year ($92/2 years)
foreign disk subscriptions: $57/yr ($109/2 yrs)
Air mail: Canada/Mexico $35; Cen.Am./Caribbean, $42; S.Amer. Europe, N.Africa, $49; Mid East, Africa, Asia, Australia, $58
Daisy Dot Software
c/o Roy Goldman
2440 South Jasmine
Denver, CO
U.S.A. 80222

continued next page ☛

Developer: Daisy-Dot III

Data 8
P.O. Box 210
Mouth Card, KY
U.S.A. 41548
Vendor: used hardware, used/commercial/PD/freeware/shareware

DataQue Products / Lex-Tronics
P.O. Box 134
Ontario, OH
U.S.A. 44862
tel/FAX: (419) 529-9797 Time: 1-5pm EST M-F
Developer: TransKey 2.4, Programmer's Pal 1.0, XDEV65 (Cross-Development Pkg 6502/65816 CPU for PCs), TBC-4001 1.0 (4M Bank Select Cart.), Turbo-Calc 1.01, Turbo-View 1.02, 16K EPROM Cart., 8-bit Survival Kit
GEn: DATAQUE.1
CIS: 71777,3223

DCW Magazine
c/o Richard Vermeulen
Princessenpad 3
5502 TV Veldhoven
Holland
Publisher: DCW Magazine (disk magazine)
free introductory issue,
7.50 Dutch guilders/disk
outside Holland: add 6.00 guilders/disk

D.G.S.
62 Thomson Ave.
Balby
Doncaster
DN4 0NU
England
tel: +44-302-855-026 (10am - 7pm GMT/BST only)Net: dx107@cleveland.freenet.edu
Vendor: used hardware, commercial/PD/freeware/shareware
Developer: Digi-Studio
Publisher: News-Paper (print magazine)
U.K.: #6.00 / 4 issues
Europe: #8.00 / 4 issues
U.S.A.: #10.50 (US$21) / 4 issues
Far East & Rest Of World: #13.00 / 4 issues

Discount Video Too
3223 F. South U.S. Hwy 1
Fort Pierce, FL 34982
U.S.A.
tel: 407-464-0019 1pm-9pm (EST) Mon-Sat
Vendor: commercial software

Diskmagazin (disk magazine)
see: A.B.B.U.C. e.V.

DynaComp Software
178 Phillips Road
Webster, NY 14580
U.S.A.
tel: (800) 828-6772
Developer: various software

East Hartford Computer
202 Robert Street
East Hartford, CT
U.S.A. 06108
tel: (203) 528-4448 11am-8pm Eastern Time Mon-Sat
Vendor: closeout commercial software

Jeff Edwards
138 South Main St.
Travelers Rest, SC
U.S.A. 29690
Developer: Digital Music System, PrintShop/Awardware graphics

The Electronic Clinic
4916 Del-Ray Ave.
Bethesda, MD
U.S.A. 20814
tel: (301) 656-7983
Vendor: used hardware, commercial/used software

Entertainment Excellence
1805 Princeton Place
Merrick, NY
U.S.A. 11566
Vendor: commercial software

Evangelo's Atari Software
Angelo V
27 Stiles Street
Elizabeth, NJ
U.S.A. 07208
tel: (908) 558-9518
Vendor: comercial software

Far North Computers
59 College Rd., #217
Fairbanks, AK
U.S.A. 99701
tel: (908) 456-3700
Vendor: hardware, software

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Fine Tooned Engineering
P.O. Box 66109
Scotts Valley, CA 95066
tel: (408) Get-REAL {438-7325} [Orders]
BBS: (408) 438-6775
Del: FTOONED GEn: F.TOONED
Developer: BASIC XL, BASIC XL ToolKit, BASIC XE, MAC/65, MAC/65 ToolKit, Action!, Action! ToolKit, Action! RunTime Package, P:R: Connection, R-Time 8, US Doubler, Multi I/O 130XE Extender, FlashBack!, SpartaDOS X 4.21, SpartaDOS 3.2g, SpartaDOS ToolKit, 256KXLE, MEG130/MEG65/MEGXL, RAMROD XL, RAMROD XL2, OSNXL, OmniView, RAMROD MMOS, RAMROD 2, RAMROD 3, OmniMon, Small Business Management, Small Business Management for the 130, Express! Professional, MARS 8, Mini I/O II

John Foskett
26 Auckland Road
Kingston-Upon-Thames
Surrey
KT1 3BG
England
tel: 081 549 8620
Developer: The Cave, Ye Olde House (both adventures)

Futura /o S. J. Murray
71 Walker Road
Torry, Aberdeen
AB1 3DL
Scotland
Publisher: Futura (disk magazine)
$3 cash or #2 IMO for sample issue

Richard Gore
79 Sprotbrough Road
Sprotbrough
Doncaster
DN5 8BW
England
tel: (0302) 784642 7pmFri-4pmSun
Vendor: commercial software
Developer: Arena, Bubble Zone, Jawbreaker, Mousekattack, Yorky 256K
Historically Brewed (print magazine)
see: Historical Computer Society

Historical Computer Society
2962 Park Street #1
Jacksonville, FL 32205
U.S.A.
Net: hcsociety@aol.com (HCSociety)
Publisher: Historically Brewed (print magazine)
6 bimonthly issues: $18 or $2 for a sample issue

Horizon Computers
601 South Broadway, Suite B
Denver, CO 80209
tel: (303) 777-8080
Vendor: ????

/HS\-Computertechnik
c/o Tobias Hang
Berliner Str. 31
D-55435 Gau-Algesheim
Germany
tel: (0)6725/2488
Developer: joystick port monitor, 8 channel relais interface, Interface Control Application Software (INCA), 8 channel Logic Analyser

IB Computers
9242 S.W. Beaverton-Hillsdale Hwy
Valley Plaza Shopping Center
Beaverton, OR
U.S.A. 97005
tel: (503) 297-8425
Vendor: hardware, software

Jeff's Atari Action Outpost
P.O. Box 771244
Lakewood, OH
U.S.A. 44107
Vendor: ????

JTM Ltd
330 1st NE
Mason City, IA 50401
U.S.A.
Net: jimmason@worf.infonet.net
Developer: dedicated weather station

Ke Software
9 Smith Ct.
Vincentown, NJ
U.S.A. 08088
Vendor: PD/freeware/shareware

K-Products
P.O. Box 2212 A.M.F.
Salt Lake City, UT 84122
U.S.A.
tel/FAX: (801) 967-7400
BBS: (801) 967-8738

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Vendor: used hardware
Developer: BBS Express! Professional, Multiline Version, Multiline Version and Mux Hardware, Networking Modules, Pro_Term Terminal Module, Hardback & Restore H/D Utility, DK-Utilities for Black Box, TurBoss! High Speed OS, KPI Hard Disk Interface

Nick Kennedy
300 South Vancouver Avenue
Russellville, AR 72801
tel: (501) 967-3843
Developer: SIO2PC

KE-Soft
c/o Kemal Ezcan
Frankenstrasse 24
63477 Maintal
Germany
tel: +49 6181 87539
FAX: +49 6181 83436
Vendor: new hardware, commercial/PD/freeware/shareware
Developer: Donald, Saper, Tactic, Zador II, Atomit II,Tecno Ninja, Fisher-Technik interface, The Brundles
Publisher: Zong (print magazine)
40DM/6 months (3 issues)
magazine/disk:55DM/6 months(3mags/ 3 disks)
broad: add 10DM p&p

Kinetic Designs
P.O. Box 1646
Orange Park, FL
U.S.A. 32067-1646
Vendor: PD/freeware/shareware

L&Y Electronics
13644C Jefferson Davis Hwy NEW/TO
CONFIRM: 14628 Build America Drive
Woodbridge, VA
U.S.A. 22191
tel: (703) 494-3444 VA
tel: (703) 643-1729 Metro
FAX: (703) 494-3663
Vendor: new/used hardware, new/used software

LACE (London Atari Computer Enthusiasts)
c/o Roy Whiteman, Secretary
153b Swaby Road
Earlsfield
London SW16
England
Net: trew@def.bae.co.uk
Vendor: used hardware/software, PD/freeware/shareware
Publisher: LACE Newsletter
$7.00 / year (monthly), or free to members

Lake Almanor Public Domain (L.A.P.D.)
c/o Stefanee Hoffee
333 Peninsula Drive
Lake Almanor, CA
U.S.A. 96137
(916) 596-4159
Vendor: PD/freeware/shareware

Lex-Tronics
see: DataQue Products

L.K. Avalon
PO BOX 66
35-959 Rzeszow 2
POLAND
Vendor: Blinky's Scary School, Cavernia, Mirax Force, Ninja Commando, Speed Ace, Stack Up, Zybex, Android, Imagine, Microx, RAM-CART (cartridge with 64KB or 128KB RAM with battery), Centronics interface: Microprint, all Polish software
Developer: -games: Barbarian, Frank&Mark, Hawkmoon, Wloczykij, A.D. 2044, Adax, Barahir, Global War, Hans Kloss, Kampania Wrzesniowa, Klatwa, Lasermania+Robbo Konstruktor, Misja+Fred, Neron, Piekielko, Robbo, Smus, Spy Master, Syn Boga Wiatru, The Last Guardian, Uczen Czarnoksieznika, Upior, Vicky, Wladcy Ciemnosci, Zeus, Aurum, Captain Gather, Change, Constellation, Czaszki+Electra, Dagobar, Darkness Hour, Digi Duck, Easy Money+Honky, Gold Hunter, Hydraulik+Snowball, Kernaw, Lorien's Tomb, Major Bronx, Rucu, Saper, The Jet Action, Trix, U235
tools: Animator (graph&anim), Automat Perkusyjny (digi drums), Chaos Music Composer, Geometria (education), Kurs Fizyki (education), Panther (text editor), Quick Assembler (with some other tools), Szperacz Dyskowy (disk monitor)

LonerSoft
c/o Clay Halliwell
407 S. 2nd St
Clinton, MO 64735-2107
tel: (in the military. changes every couple years)
GEn: E.HALLIWELL

continued next page ☞

Developer: FlickerTerm 80 (beta), ColorViewSquash, ColorSquashView, EbonView, Pantheon View, MacView 800, Quad-View 9, XF-ATR, DOMMenu, Link Basher, Maze-War 3D

Mars Merchandising
1041-B East St. Charles Rd.
Lombard, IL
U.S.A. 60148-2059
tel: (708) MARS-INC ((708) 627-7465)
Vendor: new hardware, commercial/PD/freeware/shareware

Mega Magazine (disk magazine)
see: A.N.G. Software

Micro-Discount
265 Chester Road
Streetly, West Midlands
England B74 3EA
tel: 021-353-5730 4pm-8pm Mon-Fri
FAX: 021-352-1669
Vendor: new/used hardware, commercial software Developer: Print-LAB, Tricky Print, Turbo Charger

Miles Better Software
219/221 Cannock Road
Chadsmoor, Cannock, Staffordshire
England WS11 2DD
tel: 0543-466577/8/9
Vendor: commercial software

Mirage / AS
ul. Gen. Abrahama 4
03-982 Warsaw
POLAND
tel: 671-77-77
FAX: 671-76-22
Vendor: All Polish software
Developer: -games: Operation Blood, Problem Jasia, Tanks, Bang Bank, Ship, Tron, Special Forces, Najemnik, Top Secret, Tusker, Mozgprocesor, Roderic, Inspektor, Magia, Battle Ships, Kolony, Raszyn 1809, Super Fortuna, Wyprawy Kupca, Tank vs. Tank, Axilox, Cywilizacja, Thinker, Eureka, Reverse+Missile Action, Whoops, Atomia, Bertyx, Pong,
Duch+Robal, Helix, Jaffar, Midnight, Rycerz, Zbir, Dziedzictwo Gigantow,
Tagalon, Caveman
-edu: Ortografia, Geografia Polski, Historia Polski, New Words,
Geografia Swiata
-tools: Videograph, Sound Tracker Player (Amiga module player), Audio Master (sample editor), Kleks+Trzmiel (graph), SN-360 Utility (disk tools), SN-360 Disk Drive (double side), Sampler (with some software), Video interface (digitizer+genlock)

More Than Games
8207 Briarwood Lane
Austin, TX 78757-7642
U.S.A.
CIS: 74766,1561
Net: rixcat@rider.cactus.org
Vendor: new/used hardware, new/used software
Developer: various utilities, hardware projects

MTS Creations
P.O. Box 56762
Chicago, IL
U.S.A. 60656
tel: (312) 763-1822
Developer: Font Craft

MWPD Software
890 North Huntington St.
Medina, OH
U.S.A. 44256
Vendor: PD/freeware/shareware

MyTek
P.O. Box 750396
Petaluma, CA
U.S.A. 94975-0396
FAX: (707) 527-0674
GEn: MYTEK
Developer: Prism Studio (full color genlocking, NTSC only)

National Educational Report Drawing Services (N.E.R.D.S.) Software
c/o Don Loeffler
18 Wendy Drive
Farmingville, NY
U.S.A. 11738
Developer: Print Shop icons
New Atari User (print magazine)
see: Page 6 Publishing

New Breed Software c/o Bill Kendrick
59 Palm Lane
Novato, CA 94945-2574 USA
Net: kendrick@vax.sonoma.edu
Developer: various software

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News-Paper (print magazine)
see: D.G.S.

No Frills Software
800 East 23rd Street
Kearney, NE 68847
U.S.A. 68847
Developer: Converter, Converter Companion, P.S. Users Utility Disk, PrintShop graphics

NOVAtari c/o Geoff DiMego
8612 Thames Street
Springfield, VA 22151
U.S.A.
tel: (703) 425-5030
Vendor: PD/freeware/shareware

Page 6 Publishing
P.O. Box 54
Stafford ST16 1DR
England
tel: 0785 213928
FAX: 0785 54335
Vendor: commercial/PD/freeware/shareware
Developer: Enigmatix!
Publisher: New Atari User (print magazine)

| (bi-monthly) | Magazine only | Magazine/Disk |
|---|---|---|
| Uk | $15.00 | $25.00 |
| Europe (Air Mail) | $17.00 | $32.00 |
| USA/Canada- Surface | $17.00 | $32.00 |
| USA/Canada- Air Mail | $23.00 | $42.00 |

Other countries as USA/Canada

Palette Imaging
47 South St.
Norwood, NJ 07648
U.S.A.
tel: (201) 767-3913
Developer: ChromaCAD (3-D modeler)

Papa's Chip's
1957 Harlen Road
Loves Park, IL
U.S.A. 61111
tel: (815) 633-6300

David A. Paterson
P.O. Box 342
Cote-St-Luc, QU H4V 2Y5
Canada
GEn: D.PATERSON2
Developer: CardStax, Atari 8-bit Omnibus

P.E.E.R.S. of Omaha (Patten's Electronic Equipment Repair Service)
917 North 169th Street
Omaha, NE 68118-9342
U.S.A.
tel: (402) 289-3572 Mon-Fri 10am-9pm, Sat 1pm-5pm (CST)
Vendor: used hardware

Klaus Peters Elektronik&Software
Moltkestrasse 29
D-42551 Velbert
Germany
tel: (0)2051/84815 or 84410
FAX: (0)2051/85784
Developer: Megaram (1MB), 25K Bibomon, ROM-Disk XL/XE, Burner XL/XE, Speedy 1050, Disk Drive F2000, Sprint XL, Sound-Monitor

Phoenix c/o Robert Paden
54 Ardmillan Crescent
Scrabo Estate, Newtownards, Co. Down
BT23 4PW, Nothern Ireland
Publisher:Phoenix(diskmagazine) public domain

Jeff Potter
202 Chestnut Ridge St.
Winter Springs, FL 32708
Net: potter@escmail.orl.mmc.com
CIS: 74030,2020
GEn: JDPOTTER
Developer:APACVIEW,APACSHOW, COLRVIEW, DEGASRD, ILBMREAD, GIFNCODE, CRAB NEBULA, JVIEW XL

Power Per Post
Postfach 1640
D-75006 Bretten
Germany
Vendor: new hardware, commercial/PD/freeware/shareware
Developer: Quick, Minesweeper, Glaggs It!, Rubber Ball, Screen Aided Management
Publisher: ATARImagazin (print magazine)
39DM + 6DM p&p/6 months (3 issues) abroad: 39DM + 12DM p&p/6 months disk & membership: add 60DM
Powersoft c/o Markus Roesner
Fachriastr. 9
D-74226 Nordhausen
Germany
tel: (0)7135/2840
Vendor: hardware, commercial/PD/freeware/shareware especially recent software and hardware from Poland

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(Avalon etc.)
Publisher: 8-Bit Magazin (disk magazine)

Bob Puff
Suite 222
2117 Buffalo Rd.
Rochester, NY 14624
Developer: BobTerm

Purple Mountain Computers
15600 NE 8th St. Ste. A3-412
Bellevue, WA
U.S.A. 98008
tel: (206) 399-8700
Vendor: used commercial software

Rambit
16 The Green
Thurlby
Bourne
Lincs.
PE10 0HB, England
tel: (in UK) 0778 424450
Developer: Print-Filer, Taskmaster, Parallel Printer Port

Revista STAK Atari
Casilla 51552 STGO 1
Correo Central
Santiago de Chile
Chile
Publisher: STAK Atari (print magazine)
air: US$50(cannot accept checks or credit cards)
magazine + disk, air: US$70

Thomas Smailus
co READY +TECHNOLOGIES+
P.O. Box 17578
Baton Rouge, LA 70893
U.S.A.
Net: tom@ready.rsip.lsu.edu
Developer: Olympics, Word for the Blind, Menu Master (c)1986, Hardware & Software systems for Atari 8bit & specialized.

Ronnie Riche
1700 Aycock St.
Arabi, LA 70032
Developer: TextPRO 5.20X, Maintenance Upgrade #1

Sagamore Software
2104 Arapahoe Dr.
Lafayette, IN
U.S.A. 47905
Vendor: PD/freeware/shareware

San Jose Computer
tel: (408) 995-5080

Software Infinity
642 East Waring Avenue
State College, PA 16801
U.S.A.
tel: (814) 238-7967 24hrs
Vendor: commercial/PD/freeware/shareware

STAK Atari (print magazine)
see: Revista STAK Atari

Strange Invasion c/o Stefan Lausberg
Koerschstr. 58
D-70599 Stuttgart
Germany
tel: (0)711/45 51 71
Publisher: Strange Invasion (disk magazine)
single issue 5DM
6 issues (1/2 year) 25DM

Paul Sungenis
Net: pab@cnx.sccsi.com
Sharware developer: AtariLink BBS, PabMail PCBoard, PabQwk, Mboard 2000

Super Products c/o James Bradford
Pikes Road
Beerwah QLD 4519
Australia
tel: (074) 969 169
Net: Masstorage@closer.brisnet.org.au
Developer: SuperMon, PrintMon, SuperMax, SuperRAM, Super800, SuperDOS

Surplus Computer Software
3301 S. Harbor Blvd.
Santa Ana, CA
U.S.A. 92704
tel: (714) 751-2667
FAX: (714) 751-0914
Vendor: commercial software

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Sewiat ATARI (print magazine)
see: Agencja Wydawnicza B.I.M.

Tampa Computer Orphans c/o Charles Kormos
3530 Del Lago Circle #238
Tampa, FL 33614
U.S.A.
Vendor: commercial software

Lance Tatman
844 Kern Street
Richmond, CA
U.S.A. 94805
Vendor: Digi-Studio

TEAC (The Educators Atari Club)
P.O. Box 1024
Laytonville, CA
U.S.A. 95454
Developer?: education related

Telegames
Box 901
Lancaster, TX
U.S.A. 75146
Vendor: commercial software

Toad Computers
Park Plaza Shopping Center
570 Governor Ritchie Highway
Severna Park, MD
U.S.A. 21146-2925
tel: 1-800-448-TOAD (1-800-448-8623) orders
tel: (410) 544-6943 info
FAX: (410) 544-1FAX ((410) 544-1329)
TOADFAX: (410) 544-0098
BBS: (410) 544-6999
Vendor: new/used hardware, new/used software

TOMS
ul. Beldan 2
02-695 Warsaw
POLAND
tel: 641-54-29
Developer: TOMS 720 disk drive, TOMS 710 disk drives

TOP-Magazin
c/o Markus Roemer
Schiefersteinstr. 10
D-55606 Kellenbach
Germany

# *Key Issues*

by Robert Raymond

**---Why Atari is the Success that it is today----**

Let me tell you all a story about the man who writes this rag, A poor game fan who just lost his Jag. He was so excited when he finally got 'Doom' but it took out his system with a very loud Boom!

Flickering Screen.
Loud *Squeal.*

So he took his dead unit to his dealer named John who shook his head sadly with a face that was long "California is the place its gotta go but its you that's gotta send it; that's how they run this show"

Corporate Policy.
Pain-in-the-ass.

It was there three weeks and I didn't here a thing they wouldn't say nothing, even return my rings. I finally pinned one down and made him squeal; they'd lost my unit! What a raw deal!

Finger pointing.
Stupid excuses.

Well, that promised replacement unit hasn't shown up here. We figure we'll be lucky if it makes it in a year. I know that next time I'll buy a PC and throw a bird to the boys in Beverly.

See you next month!
You all come back now, heah?

(Editor's Note: The above is written by our esteemed and steamed secretary about his mishap with the Atari Corporation. While this situation is very sad and he has every right to be steamed and upset with the Atari Corp., this does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Mid-Florida Atari Computer Club, the Officers or the staff of this Newsletter.)

## ATARI 8-BIT DISK OF THE MONTH

by Jeff Potter
MFACC 8-Bit Librarian

Hello again, 8-bitters! This 8-bit disk of the month's theme is 80 column terminal programs. I've located two recent additions to this category that have appeared in the last couple of months. I hope you enjoy them.

### FLICKERTERM 80

This first one was written by Earl C. (Clay) Halliwell (also known for some interesting graphics slideshow and menu programs). It is called Flickerterm because it uses a two-page display list to perform in 80 columns, page-flipping at 60 times per second. One page shows all the even numbered columns as graphics 0 characters squeezed into the left four pixels of an eight-pixel character. The other page shows all odd numbered columns as graphics 0 characters squeezed into the right four pixels. When the two pages are displayed alternately, you get two characters in the space of one.

There are two advantages of this system: characters can be depicted with a width of four vs. three (see next program for a description), without "bleeding" between adjacent characters. Secondly, since he is using graphics 0 (text) rather than graphics 8 (bit mapped graphics), "plotting" of each character is much faster. Users have reported using Flickerterm at 9600 and 14,400 bps without dropping characters (!).

Drawbacks? Well, the flickering display takes a little getting used to. You might have to turn down the lights in your room, and adjust the brightness of your display until you're happy with the results. Also note that this is a bare bones terminal emulator. It doesn't include download capability.

Disk side A contains DOS.SYS and DUP.SYS (which is MyDOS 4.5), the program itself (FLICK80.COM), the font file (FLICK80.FNT), for which any other 9-sector font file can be substituted, and the documentation (FLICK80.DOC). You'll need to load or prepend your favorite RS-232 handler (more on these later) for Flickerterm to work. I have included one, which works with the P:R:Connection and the Atari 850 (RS232.SYS).

Flickerterm includes a menu system that can be activated whether you're connected or not. Terminal emulation includes normal ASCII/ATASCII, plus VT100 and IBM ANSI codes. I've tried it on several local ANSI BBSes, with impressive results.

By the way, Clay can be reached on GEnie at E.HALLIWELL, which is reachable as an Internet address by adding "@genie.geis.com" to the end.

### ICET

IceT is Itay Chamiel's 80-column terminal program. It uses the older method of plotting characters as 3 x 8 pixels each in a graphics 8 screen. They must be three pixels wide so that one blank column (1 x 8) of pixels separates each character from the next. If this wasn't done, you'd notice two characters running together, making the resulting blob harder to understand. Thus ICET is a little less readable than Flickerterm, but it makes up in other ways by not having that distracting flickering problem.

Early versions of 80-column terminal programs based on graphics 8 screens suffered from an update rate problem. When your cursor reaches the bottom of the screen, you want all the other rows of text to scroll up by one line. The straightforward method is to do about 8,000 copies to move the top 23 lines (remember they're represented by graphics 8, not graphics 0) to locations eight pixels lower (nearer the top of the screen) in memory. This only allowed operation at 300 and 1200 bps. Itay got around this by using the Atari's display list capability. Once he's plotted a line of text to a section of graphics 8 screen, he leaves it alone. When he needs to scroll a screen upwards, he adjusts the display list so that a new line is at the bottom, and the other 23 (actually 24 in his program) lines appear higher on the screen. This allows his program to run at 2400 and 4800 bps.

IceT works from a convenient drop-down menu system, and includes DOS-like options, smooth scrolling, and Xmodem download capability. It

also includes quite robust VT100 (but not ANSI) emulation. The documentation includes descriptions of VT100 control codes and escape sequences.

Disk side B contains the program itself (ICET.BAK), which needs to be appended to your RS-232 handler before you can run the program. Also see the documentation (ICET.DOC), the configuration file (ICET.CFG), and two notices (NOTICE.AR0, ICETBLUR.B). Itay includes the previous version of IceT (ICET_OLD.OBJ) in case the new one has a flaw that the old one used to handle. Also on this side is Itay's excellent 80-column file viewer READER.COM, for displaying 80-column ASCII or ATASCII files off-line.

## WHY USE THESE PROGRAMS ANYWAY?

The main reason I tried both of these programs is to communicate on the ST and IBM BBSes that insist on 80-column or ANSI operation. Already, 8-bitters are able to dial-up Internet connections for file transfers and remote logins to other machines. Those machines demand 80-column operation, and most likely VT100 terminal emulation. Clay and Itay continue to work on their programs, and will most likely add file transfer (X or Y-modem) capability in the future.

## RS-232 HANDLERS

What are these? Why are they needed? An RS-232 handler tells the Operating System (OS) how to respond when a write, read, or status command is directed to the "R:" device. Handlers for the "E:" (editor), "P:" (printer), and "C:" (cassette) devices exist in the OS ROM. The Atari OS doesn't include a handler for "R:", so one must be added (loaded into RAM) either at boot-up or just before you run your terminal program. If you own an Atari 850 or ICD's P:R:Connection (like I do), a short one-sector program can cause the "R:" handler to be loaded from a ROM located inside your 850 or P:R:C. Certain other direct-connect modems (XM-301 and 1030) had similar ROMs, and handlers could be installed as easily. Other interface devices (MPP, RVerter, etc.) came with their individual handlers on disk.

I found that both of these programs operate okay if you just load the RS232.SYS handler, then load the terminal program.

By the way, I located a handler and documentation for the SX-212 Atari modem. See disk #119A in Box 3.

## CLASSIC TERMINAL PROGRAMS

I scanned the 8-bit disk library, and came up with the following older terminal programs (most of these are 40 columns unless noted):

Term80: 80-column terminal program, not as fast as IceT or Flickerterm, but still respectable, and includes upload/download capability (Box 1, GEnie Disk #70).

VT52.OBJ: 80-column terminal program that supposedly provides either VT52 or VT100 emulation. On my first try I couldn't get this one to communicate with the modem properly (Box 1, GEnie Disk #90).

BobTerm V1.21: My current favorite for general-purpose modeming. This works with all modems, and provides upload/download capability in several protocols, up to 19.2k bps. Normally works in 40 columns, but can interface to the XEP-80 for 80 columns (Box 1, GEnie Disk #93).

Amodem75: One of the older modem programs (Box 1, GEnie Disk #96).

Masterminal: terminal program for the 850 interface or 1030 direct connect modem (Box 2, Utilities, 1A/B).

Express: Keith Ledbetter's excellent series of terminal programs. These were the state of the art before Bob Puff's BobTerm came along. Versions exist for the 850 (Box 2, Utilities, 2A), 1030 (2B), and MPP interface (3B).

AceTerm: terminal program for the XM301, 1030, and 835 direct connect modems (Box 2, Utilities, 6A).

Kermit: one of the few (maybe the only) terminal programs to use the Kermit protocol. Kermit is used in certain Unix or VAX

connections for transferring files (Box 2, Utilities, 6B).

That's all I've got this month. As always, I'm open for suggestions on future themes for 8-bit DOMs. Drop me a line on Bob's Inner Core BBS, or write me at:

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